

**TITLE V INDICATOR TEMPLATE**

**INDICATOR:** Fetal Mortality Rate

**DEFINITION:** The number of fetal deaths occurring at 20 weeks or more gestation per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths

**NUMERATOR:** The number of fetal deaths occurring at 20 weeks or more gestation, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**DENOMINATOR:** The total number of live births plus fetal deaths, by place of residence, in a calendar year

**HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 OBJECTIVE:**

Reduce the fetal death rate (20 or more weeks of gestation) to no more than 4.1 per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths.  
(Baseline: 6.8 per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths in 1997) (Objective 16-1a)

**RISK FACTORS:**

Race/ethnicity (African American); maternal diabetes; pregnancy complications; maternal medical complications/chronic illness during pregnancy (including severe maternal infection); Rh sensitization; congenital anomalies; intrauterine cocaine exposure; maternal history of miscarriage

Year	California				LA County			
	Fetal Mortality		95 % Confidence Interval		Fetal Mortality		95 % Confidence Interval	
	Deaths	Rate	Lower	Upper	Deaths	Rate	Lower	Upper
1993	3,574	6.1	5.9	6.3	1,057	5.5	5.2	5.9
1994	3,299	5.8	5.6	6.0	1,018	5.6	5.3	6.0
1995	3,355	6.0	5.8	6.3	964	5.5	5.1	5.8
1996	3,330	6.1	5.9	6.4	1,024	6.0	5.7	6.4
1997	2,996	5.7	5.5	5.9	866	5.3	5.0	5.7
1998	3,053	5.8	5.6	6.0	821	5.1	4.8	5.5
1999	2,927	5.6	5.4	5.8	801	5.1	4.8	5.5
2000	3,046	5.7	5.5	5.9	864	5.5	5.1	5.8
2001	2,952	5.6	5.4	5.8	784	5.1	4.7	5.4
2002	2,649	5.0	4.8	5.2	740	4.9	4.5	5.2

Denominator: Total Births		
Year	California	LA County
1993	588,057	190,763
1994	570,333	181,412
1995	554,581	175,826
1996	541,958	169,997
1997	527,170	162,902
1998	524,318	159,425
1999	521,000	156,954
2000	534,331	158,255
2001	530,323	154,307
2002	531,894	151,907

Note: Total Births = Live Births + Fetal Deaths.

For number of fetal deaths in Los Angeles County, records with missing gestational age are excluded. (n=73 in 2002)

Source: California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Vital Statistics, 1993-2002.